

**SENATE . . . . . No. 677**

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

PRESENTED BY:

***Sal N. DiDomenico***

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

**An Act to ensure equitable health coverage for children.**

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	
<i>Sal N. DiDomenico</i>	<i>Middlesex and Suffolk</i>	
<i>Jason M. Lewis</i>	<i>Fifth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/24/2019</i>
<i>Joanne M. Comerford</i>	<i>Hampshire, Franklin and Worcester</i>	<i>1/25/2019</i>
<i>José F. Tosado</i>	<i>9th Hampden</i>	<i>1/25/2019</i>
<i>Mike Connolly</i>	<i>26th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2019</i>
<i>Maria Duaine Robinson</i>	<i>6th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/25/2019</i>
<i>Jack Patrick Lewis</i>	<i>7th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/29/2019</i>
<i>Kay Khan</i>	<i>11th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/30/2019</i>
<i>Cindy F. Friedman</i>	<i>Fourth Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Patricia D. Jehlen</i>	<i>Second Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Thomas M. Stanley</i>	<i>9th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Michael D. Brady</i>	<i>Second Plymouth and Bristol</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Carmine Lawrence Gentile</i>	<i>13th Middlesex</i>	<i>1/31/2019</i>
<i>Sean Garballey</i>	<i>23rd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>James K. Hawkins</i>	<i>2nd Bristol</i>	<i>2/1/2019</i>
<i>Julian Cyr</i>	<i>Cape and Islands</i>	<i>2/8/2019</i>

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By Mr. DiDomenico, a petition (accompanied by bill, Senate, No. 677) of Sal N. DiDomenico, Jason M. Lewis, Joanne M. Comerford, José F. Tosado and other members of the General Court for legislation to ensure equitable health coverage for children. Health Care Financing.

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**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-First General Court  
(2019-2020)**  
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An Act to ensure equitable health coverage for children.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1           SECTION 1. Chapter 118E of the General Laws, as so appearing, is hereby amended by  
2 adding after Section 16D the following section:-

3           Section 16E. (1) Notwithstanding any other law, there is hereby established a program of  
4 comprehensive health coverage for children and young adults under the age of 21 who are  
5 residents of the Commonwealth, as defined under section 8 of this chapter, who are not  
6 otherwise eligible for comprehensive benefits under Title XIX or XXI of the Social Security Act  
7 or under the demonstration pursuant to Section 9A of this chapter solely due to their immigration  
8 status. Children and young adults shall be eligible to receive comprehensive MassHealth benefits  
9 equivalent to the benefits available to individuals of like age and income under categorical and  
10 financial eligibility requirements established by the Executive Office pursuant to said Title XIX  
11 and Title XXI.

12           (2) The Executive Office shall maximize federal financial participation for the benefits  
13 provided under this section, however benefits under this section shall not be conditioned on the  
14 availability of federal financial participation.